

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2018, November 23, 1957

## TRIBAL DANCE IN THE ARIZONA DESERT

### Moonlight ritual of American Indians

The Hopi Indians of America's south-west still mark the changing of the seasons with their traditional masked dancing. A C.N. correspondent, recently returned from north-west Arizona, tells how he witnessed one of the tribal dances of the Hopis in which the Kachinas or good spirits are saluted for the good benefits they send, just as they have been for centuries in these flat desert lands.

THERE are about 20,000 Indians in Arizona divided into the Hopi, the Zuni, and the Rio Grande tribes. They are stalwart, resolute people who still observe many of the customs of their forefathers. These customs include dances which pay tribute to the Kachinas, their guardian spirits.

At Flagstaff, where the great expresses of the Santa Fé railroad stop to set down passengers for the Grand Canyon, Indians come to sell their Kachina dolls, masked and painted like the performers in the tribal dances.

#### DESERT FORTRESS

The dolls are a foot high and made from the cottonwood tree, and usually have wooden wings spread like an eagle's feathers. That is all that white people usually see of the Kachina dancing, for the secrets of it are closely guarded.

At Walpi in the Arizona Desert there is a fortress cut out of the solid rock and surrounded by corn and bean fields. And there I was allowed to watch 70 masked and painted dancers march out into

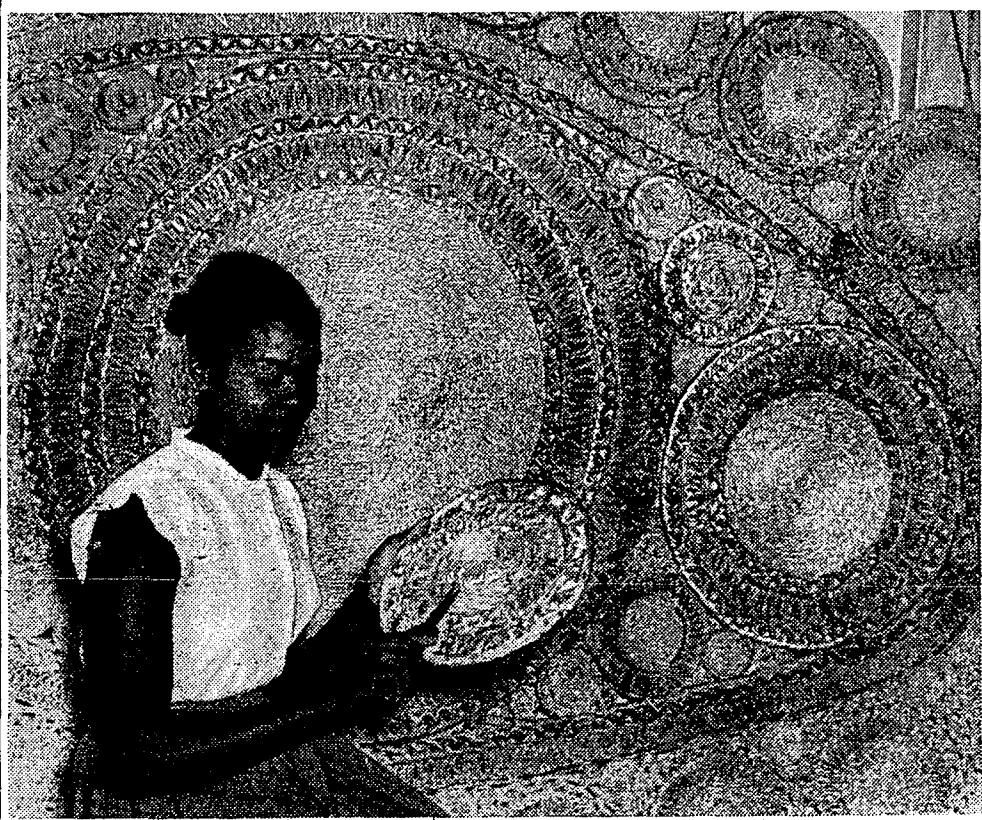
the open, their shoulders covered in branches and wearing on their heads what looked like magnificent top hats daubed in colour. Each man wore a bandolier of shells to imitate the beat of the raindrops, for the Hopi is always expecting rain to be sent by one of his favourite Kachinas.

#### TIN SUBSTITUTE

A vivid, home-made apron was covered with a festoon of strings which made a swinging sash almost like a kilt. In the old days of this kingdom of masked dancers rattling deer hoofs were circled round the waist, but today, sleigh bells made of jingling tin are used.

The procession of the dancers was led by old men in ceremonial blankets. Each man made his own steps and thought of himself as a Kachina, a king of the spirits bringing happiness and prosperity to his people.

Groups of the Hopi Indians watched with glowing, excited faces as they saw the age-old ritual of their people enacted before them. If any man dared to keep his hat on, a policeman came up



and hit him with the sharp edge of a big yucca leaf.

The festival of dancing had already lasted 16 days and much of it had been secret. Hopi Indians from many parts of the south-west of America, where they may be working in the towns and cities, come home at the Kachina festival time to be initiated into their tribal life. This usually consists in receiving a number of stripes of the yucca leaf blade, which is painful but is also recognised as very honourable.

#### RARE OPPORTUNITY

From the walls of the ancient Walpi fortress visitors may watch the moonlight dance in the kivas, the old burying chambers of the Hopi people. These chambers are rarely open to white visitors, but on this occasion one was opened by its attendant priest, who blessed each dancer, and threw a pinch of sacred corn on the right shoulder. Then he laid a trail of meal across the floor as a sign of happiness.

Team after team from the 70 dancers entered the close, hot kiva chamber to dance to the beat of a drum—a weird and fantastic scene to an onlooker.

The Indians who still keep this dancing and ritual alive in Arizona are usually also hard-working citizens of the United States—business men, shopkeepers, clerks, or officials in small towns or villages, and their children go to the local high school.

But still the call comes, and the Hopi blood stirs in them to go back to the desert and take part in the ancient customs of their ancestors.

## The Stamp Girl

This picture has been reproduced on two new stamps just issued by Dominica, an island of the West Indies. It shows Cynthia Thomas, aged 19, making the straw mats for which the island is noted. Cynthia must be doubly proud of her honour, for the stamps also bear the Queen's portrait.

### JOHN BROWN'S FARMHOUSE

"John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave"; so runs the famous song about the American anti-slavery leader who died nearly 100 years ago. But John Brown's farmhouse still stands, at North Elba in New York State, only a few hundred yards from his grave; and a sum of 10,000 dollars is to be spent in restoring it to its original appearance and to provide for a small museum to house relics of the period.

It was on the night of October 16, 1859, that John Brown led his followers in an unsuccessful attack on the United States arsenal at Harper's Ferry in Virginia. A misguided attempt to enlist support for the cause of anti-slavery, it led to his trial and execution a few weeks later. But, as the song says, "His soul goes marching on."

#### LUCKY STRIKE

An African who found a 350-carat diamond in the Jagersfontein diamond mine in the Orange Free State has been given £750 by the company. The winner of this record award plans to return to his home in the British protectorate of Basutoland and raise cattle.

### BRAVE SCHOOLGIRL'S REWARD

A few weeks ago the C.N. referred to 13-year-old Jean Williams' rescue of a boy at a Bristol swimming pool. Now comes news that she has received the Macdonald Award, which is given twice monthly for acts of bravery and kindness by children under 16.

Jean is a pupil at Rose Green High School, which holds the Royal Life Saving Society's Cup; but she is the first pupil ever to put into practice what she had learned. "The school is proud of you, Jean," said her headmistress at the presentation; and 250 school-girls applauded their agreement.

### PRAYER BOOK FOR TEWKESBURY

A hand-written Book of Common Prayer has been given to Tewkesbury Abbey by Mrs. Evelyn Bond of Boldre, Hampshire. The task took her three years.

When living in Cheltenham, Mrs. Bond often went to Tewkesbury Abbey, and during her visits she made a great number of sketches, which she used in designing the illuminated initials and margins of her book.

### Malayan duet

These two young soldiers have come all the way from Malaya to take a course at the Royal Military School of Music at Kneller Hall, Twickenham, Middlesex





# PARLIAMENT'S BIG PROGRAMME

## Proposals in the Queen's Speech

By the C.N. Parliamentary Correspondent

THE Queen's Speech contained many proposals which deserve close study, not the least of them being the Government's plan to strengthen the House of Lords.

The Bill, to be passed this session, will in future enable the Sovereign to create life peers as well as hereditary peers. For the first time in our history women will be admitted to the Lords.

Life peerages are not new to the British Constitution. Under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act of 1876, the Sovereign already makes nine appointments of what are called Lords of Appeal in Ordinary.

These are distinguished judges or counsel. They rank as barons and are members of the House of Lords, but their titles die with them and do not pass to their heirs.

Otherwise the Queen creates only hereditary peers—that is, men whose dignities and titles pass automatically to their heirs. The titles of some modern peers date from the 13th century.

Why must the Lords be strengthened? At present there are nearly 900 peers of various ranks, but only about 100 of them take part regularly in the daily work of the House.

Most of the Lords' membership at the moment is Conservative. Although Earl Attlee, when he was Labour Prime Minister in 1945-51, created about 100 Labour peers, death and retirement have weakened the Opposition in the Upper House.

It is partly to restore the balance, and partly to make the Lords a real "brains trust," that

### BLUEBIRD'S BEST

For the fourth time in just over two years, Donald Campbell's jet-powered hydroplane, Bluebird, has broken the world's water speed record. During two runs made on Coniston Water, speeds of 260 m.p.h. and 218 m.p.h. were reached, giving an average of 239 m.p.h.—over 13 m.p.h. faster than the previous record.

### Star with a problem



Thirteen-year-old Mandy Miller is making her tenth film, and so has to miss her usual school lessons. Instead, she has lessons in the studio between filming, and here she is set a problem by her tutor.

the Government is now putting forward this limited reform—nearly 70 years after a Conservative Prime Minister, the third Marquess of Salisbury, proposed the first Lords reform plan of modern times.

Among other measures foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech is one which will provide further safeguards for adopted children. In this matter of orphans and other little ones who have no "real" parents of their own the law is still not satisfactory, so the Government proposes to provide for closer supervision of foster-parents who "take children into their care for payment."

### TASK FOR THE HOME SECRETARY

In fairness, however, it must be pointed out that most foster-parents are excellent people doing a first-class job. It is only a minority who, by carelessness, make new laws necessary.

This is a task for the Home Secretary, Mr. R. A. Butler. He also proposes to alter the prison laws so that offenders have a better chance to reform and become good citizens.

Another Bill will deal with so-called "secret" courts. There are many tribunals, set up under Acts of Parliament, to inquire into various claims—National Insurance, labour matters, and so on.

A committee under Sir Oliver Franks recently examined their proceedings and membership, and the Government will put into force provisions to tighten up the tribunal system.

### FREEDOM FROM WHITEHALL

Increases in war and retirement pensions were also foreshadowed in the Speech, so that people with small fixed incomes could catch up with the rise in the cost of living.

But perhaps the most complicated measure of all is a plan of local government reform to be put through by Mr. Henry Brooke, the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

This will give our Town Hall or council office people, working under our elected councillors, more freedom to spend Government grants as they wish, instead of taking directions from the central government in Whitehall.

There is some opposition to this because it is feared some councils may be tempted to economise, say, on education so as to spend their "lump sum" grants on other services. But the Government is fully alive to the needs of education in the Space Age and there will no doubt be safeguards.

# THE SECOND SATELLITE

At the beginning of this month the Russians launched a second satellite to a height nearly twice as great as that of the first, and by the time these words are being read they may have launched others.

Meanwhile, they have provided yet another striking demonstration of their amazing scientific progress, and clear proof that in what may be called the race into space Russia has a pronounced lead. At the same time they have shown willingness to supply some information about the satellites to scientists of other countries.

Launched by what is claimed to be a new fuel, this second satellite differs from the first in several ways.

Its speed is about the same—five miles a second; but because its orbit is bigger, its journey round

### Nobel Prize winner



The 1957 Nobel Prize for Chemistry has been awarded to Sir Alexander Todd, Cambridge University Professor of Organic Chemistry, seen here in his lab.

the Earth takes longer; about one hour forty minutes compared with the first satellite's 96 minutes.

It is also eight times as heavy as the first satellite, and, instead of being a hollow sphere, consists of a series of containers housed in the last stage of the carrier rocket.

The husky dog Laika, the first living creature to enter interplanetary space, was carried in one of these containers.

Other containers hold various apparatus for studying the upper layers of the atmosphere, as well as the physical processes and conditions of life in cosmic space.

Weighing altogether about half a ton, this scientific apparatus includes instruments for studying solar radiation, cosmic rays, temperature, and pressure, and others for transmitting scientific measurements to the Earth.

There are also two radio transmitters operating on frequencies of 40 and 20 megacycles (wavelengths of about 7.5 and 15 metres). The transmitters ceased to give signals after seven days, "in accordance with their set programme," as Moscow Radio announced, stating at the same time that all the information so far received was now being carefully assessed.

# News from Everywhere

Shocks thought to have been caused by an underwater earthquake struck a ship in the Pacific. Her captain said the shocks were severe and lasted about 15 seconds, but the sea remained calm, its surface covered with lava.

### VOLCANIC POWER

Experiments are being made in Siberia for tapping volcanic power to generate electricity.

French scientists studying fish migration are to label thousands of herrings in the Channel next month.

Zinc worth £2500 has been recovered by divers from a cargo ship torpedoed near the Wolf Rock off Land's End in 1917.

Sir John Deane's Grammar School at Northwich, Cheshire, has celebrated its 400th anniversary.

### MEMENTO OF MARGATE

A casket made of oak from Margate's bombed Church of Holy Trinity is to be presented to Sir Winston Churchill when he receives the Freedom of Margate at a ceremony in his London home on November 27.

Fried grasshoppers and roasted caterpillars are among the dainty dishes on sale in a New York shop.

### LONG-DISTANCE LAUNCHING

A button pressed in Sydney on November 22 will transmit a radio impulse and launch a new cargo ship at Belfast, 10,000 miles away.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is to fly to Australia next February. She will also visit New Zealand.

A U.S. Army helicopter lowered the cross into position on a church spire at Konnersreuth, Germany.

### Strange job



For nearly half a century Fred Tuck has been taking gravel from the beach at West Bay, near Bridport. Every year about 10,000 tons are exported for use in filter beds.

### THREE-DAY WEEK

A wonderful sewing machine factory has opened at the new town of Elizabeth, South Australia. It is all-automatic, and will eventually allow its workers to earn their wages in a three-day week.

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## PUPPET DRAMA IN RUSSIA

Puppetry is popular in Britain, but Russians are so fond of it that they have 180 professional puppet theatres. These present about 60,000 shows a year to audiences amounting to 12 million. In addition, there are some 2000 groups of amateur puppeteers. In fact, the miniature theatre has produced an independent art in Russia, having its own playwrights who understand its special features.

Recently an exhibition of puppetry was held in Moscow at which the history of Russian puppet theatres was illustrated and models of stage settings and puppets were displayed. Represented there was what is probably the most northerly puppet theatre in the world, the one at Petropavlosk-on-Kamchatka in the Arctic. This company often tours its area on dog or reindeer sleigh, and some of its plays are based on northern folk tales.

## COMPETITION RESULT

Book token prizes, each valued at ten shillings and sixpence, have been awarded to the following readers for their entries in CN Competition No. 26: Elizabeth Broad, Welwyn Garden City; John Claydon, Worcester; Margaret Cooper, Maidenhead; Margaret Costain, Wallasey; Peter Evans, Sanderstead; Hazel McIntyre, Boscombe; Frances Parsons, Hatch End; Hazel Richards, Oswestry; David Thompson, Wells; and Rita Williamson, Stonebroom.

**SOLUTION:** "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

## Winning Smile



Pamela Corke of Tenterden, Kent, wears a happy smile in this picture. And no wonder, for she had just won a silver challenge cup at a local horticultural show for the best arranged vase of flowers by a child under 12. Pamela's mother has also won prizes for her flower arrangements.

## MICE IN THE KEYS

Field mice have been getting into the Church of All Saints at Goulceby, near Louth, and nibbling the black notes of the organ.

Field mice often invade buildings in bad weather, and have been known to eat church candles; but this liking for organ notes is something new, this preference for sharps and flats a complete mystery.

## ADVENTURE AFLOAT AND ASLEEP

Mr. Thomas Lord, 26-year-old bargemaster of Hull, had an exciting trip in his sleep when his craft broke its moorings in Hunslet Basin, Leeds, and was swept downstream. But Mr. Lord slept through it all, and he was still asleep when his barge went aground on the very edge of a weir and with the hull hanging several feet over the edge.

Not until nine o'clock the next morning was the sleeper awakened, and then he had to wait for another seven hours until his vessel could be towed off.

He had been reading a prisoner-of-war escape story until one o'clock the night before.

## BRIDGE FROM EUROPE TO ASIA

Europe and Asia will be linked by a great suspension bridge which Turkey is to build across the Bosphorus, the strait between the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmara.

At present people cross by ferry boat, a journey which takes about half an hour. When the bridge is built they will be able to cross quickly by bus or on foot. The bridge will be 4396 feet long, and will carry four lanes of traffic.

## SHIPYARD FOR CUBA

Cuba's first shipyard, together with a fleet of 25 ships, is to be made in Britain. Worth about £30,000,000, the order is the biggest ever given by Cuba to this country.



## WATCHING THE MARKET

More than 255,000 members of the public have used the visitors' gallery at the Stock Exchange since it was opened to them four years ago.

In a leaflet, called The Stock Exchange and You, visitors are told: "From your vantage point in the gallery, you survey a scene that becomes significant only when you realise that here, in the heart of the City of London, you are watching one of the great financial markets of the world."

## Off to a lonely island

Miss Rhoda Downer (left) is off on a 6000 mile voyage to become a teacher in Tristan da Cunha, the lonely island in the South Atlantic. She was formerly headmistress at a Ramsgate school. With her, accompanied by his wife and three sons, is Mr. Dennis Simpson, who is to be Tristan's agricultural superintendent. They are sailing on the Research Ship John Biscoe.

# FRY'S TUCK SHOP

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**4<sup>d</sup>**

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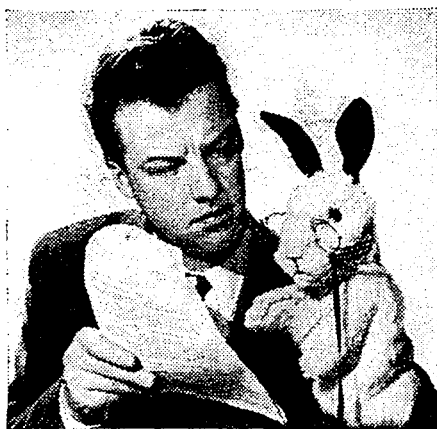
**3<sup>d</sup>**



ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

# LITTLE THEODORE IS A BIG FAVOURITE

You can be quite small and still be a big TV personality. This is being proved every Friday afternoon by Theodore the Rabbit, a glove puppet who made his first bow this month in Associated-Rediffusion's Small Time. Theodore is operated by conjurer Larry Parker, who used to bring a white rabbit out of a hat. He says that Theodore is its son.



Theodore and Larry Parker

Theodore talks in a whisper you can hardly hear, but Larry understands every word, perhaps because the voice is really that of his wife Rowena. Larry, now 28.

has been conjuring since he was 12. He says his hobbies are fencing and collecting matchboxes.

## Six-Five Special is so popular

TEENAGERS are bombarding the BBC with requests for seats in the studio audience for Six-Five Special on Saturdays. I hear that a recent broadcast announcement asking people not to write for tickets because of the long waiting list was followed by at least another 8000 applications.

Six-Five Special is now travelling around the country, and on Saturday (November 23) it comes from Manchester.

Among the northern artistes taking part is Shirley Buxton, who has made a big name for herself, and the John Barry Seven, a skiffle group from York.

## Science in the office

WORK in an office, for girls as well as boys, gets more and more interesting with the increase in scientific techniques. This will be brought out in the Younger Generation spot in the BBC Network Three next Wednesday (November 27), when Janet Duffell will be heard talking to experts and young employees in several big offices which she has visited with a tape recorder.

Fresh Air in the Office, as the programme is called, took her first of all to International Business Machines' new premises in London's West End. I called there at the same time and saw how young typists, accustomed to using ordinary typewriters, quickly pick up the knack of operating the new electric ones. They work with a thistledown touch.

At the Shell-Mex offices Janet Duffell was shown how time is saved with teleprinters. At the Decca works she saw how exact copies of documents can be sent over cable or radio by a facsimile transmission system. A visit to Remington-Rand showed how microfilm makes it possible to reproduce and preserve masses of letters and other papers in tiny film reels.

Office work need not be dull. The programme will end with a chat about careers open to young people in this exciting new world of commercial and industrial automation.

## ROYAL OCCASION

### Tenth wedding anniversary for the Queen and Prince Philip

THE Queen and Prince Philip celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary this Wednesday (November 20). It is a truly royal occasion, and BBC Television is paying fitting tribute at 9 o'clock with a world-wide film round-up highlighting the Royal couple, not only in the past ten years, but during their childhood.

My old friend Michael Balkwill, who has been in BBC News—Sound and Vision—since 1933, has had the happy task of viewing thousands of feet of newsreel from the film libraries, choosing how best to tell the story. The chronicle will include their engagement and marriage, and we shall see pictures of Prince Charles and Princess Anne when

they were babies. The Coronation, of course, plays a big part in the story, and we shall accompany the Queen and Prince Philip on their various tours all over the world.



A recent photograph of the Queen and Prince Philip

## Mr Pastry up to his tricks again

EVER since Richard Hearn came back from Australia earlier this year he has been plunging in and out of the various TV channels rather like a porpoise. Ken Carter of Associated-Rediffusion started it when he waylaid Mr. Pastry in Sydney last May, even before he had finished a variety season there, and signed him on for a series on 1TV before the BBC could get him.

Since then the baffled face and twitching whiskers have also made fleeting appearances on the BBC. On Saturday evening, however, Richard Hearn has a full-scale show with the BBC—Mr. Pastry's Spicy Life—which was last seen three years ago.

Mr. Pastry, I am told, will look the same as ever, and some of the

tricks will be the same, but the things that will happen to him will be ones that have never been seen on a TV screen before.



Richard Hearn—alias Mr. Pastry

## Theatre in the school grounds

DIANA BEEVERS plays the eldest daughter Susan in BBC Television's new children's serial The Thompson Family, starting on Saturday (November 23). She is five foot three, one of the tallest girls of her age (13) ever to appear on TV. She is considerably taller than many of the boys with whom she acts.

Diana loves acting, but she means to make certain of her G.C.E. before leaving the Corona Stage School, and is studying hard. In her spare time she is writing plays which it is hoped to present in the new theatre which the boys and girls are themselves building in the school grounds. With the



Diana Beever

help of a master builder, they have already got much of the brickwork and cementing finished. By the spring they will be making scenery and dresses for Diana's first play.

## Tale of tin-mining and smuggling

CORAL ISLAND is perhaps the best-known story written by that great Victorian yarn-spinner R. M. Ballantyne. But he also wrote about 80 other novels, one of the least known being Deep Down, a tale of tin-mining and smuggling in the West of Cornwall 150 years ago.

This story is being revived in BBC Children's Hour in a four-part serial starting next Wednesday (November 27). The hero, played by David Enders, is young Dr. Oliver Trembath, who finds himself trying to run a practice in a tough community where tin-mining is the main occupation but smuggling is the chief hobby.

An interesting link with Ballantyne himself is the copy of the book from which Miss Tony Chambers has made her adaptation

for the broadcast. It was a gift from her sister, who married the great-great-grandson of the manager of the Botallack mine, near St. Just, where Ballantyne stayed while collecting material for Deep Down.

## Over to Switzerland

WOULD you like a 30-minute trip to Switzerland? That is the idea behind Mountain Holiday, which Richard West is presenting in the BBC Welsh studios for Children's Television this Friday (November 22).

This will be a mixture of singing and dancing in the studio and films taken in the Swiss mountains.

Welsh singers Bronwen Jones and Gerard Hely will be joined by a Swiss singing group which includes a number of yodellers.

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# EIGHT PORTRAITS BY A MASTER HAND



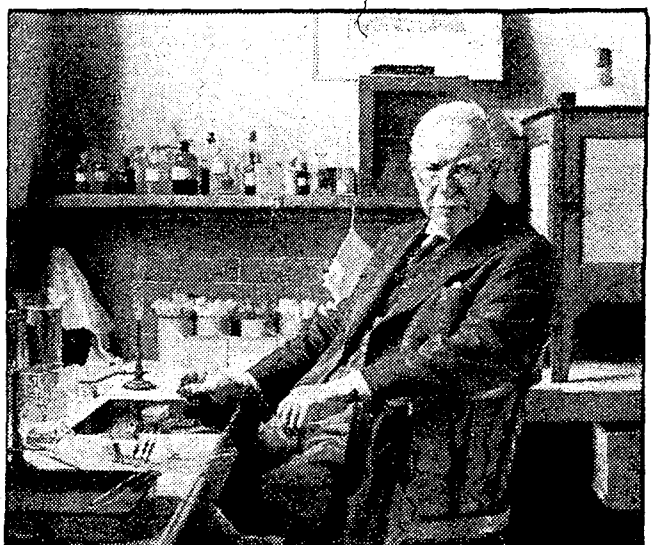
**Dr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, O.M.**

A WONDERFUL exhibition of paintings by Sir Gerald Kelly, Past President of the Royal Academy, is now on view in the Diploma Gallery of Burlington House, London.

Open until December 15, the exhibition reflects the wide range of a distinguished artist who is the fourth member of the Royal Academy to be honoured in this way during his lifetime.

Besides portraits of many famous people, it includes still-life studies and paintings made in many parts of the world, from Peking to the beach at Eastbourne—records of fruitful years spent by the artist in France and Spain, as well as in countries of the Far East. Sir Gerald Kelly is also said to have painted over 90 pictures of his wife and several of these are included in this exhibition.

*All these pictures are reproduced by courtesy of the Royal Academy.*



**Sir Almroth Wright (1861-1947) at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington**



**Miss Eleanor Toye**



**Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother**



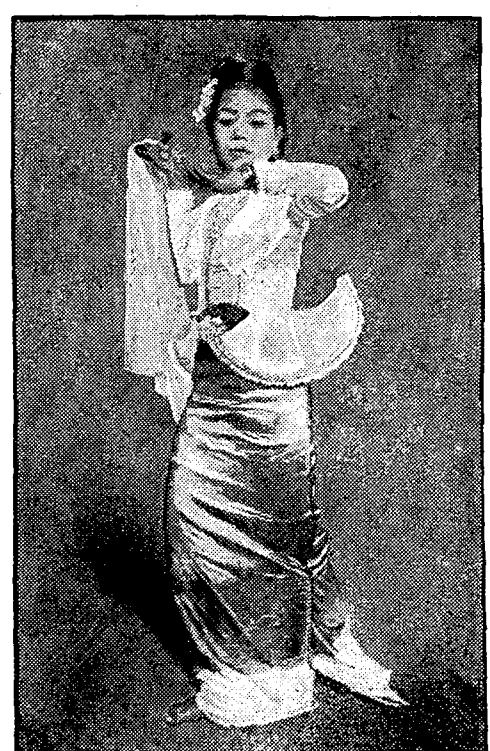
**Sasha Kropotkin Lebedeff**



**Sir Malcolm Sargent**



**Dr. J. N. Keynes (1852-1949) of Cambridge University**



**The Incantation**



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars, London, E.C.4  
NOVEMBER 23 ..... 1957

## SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

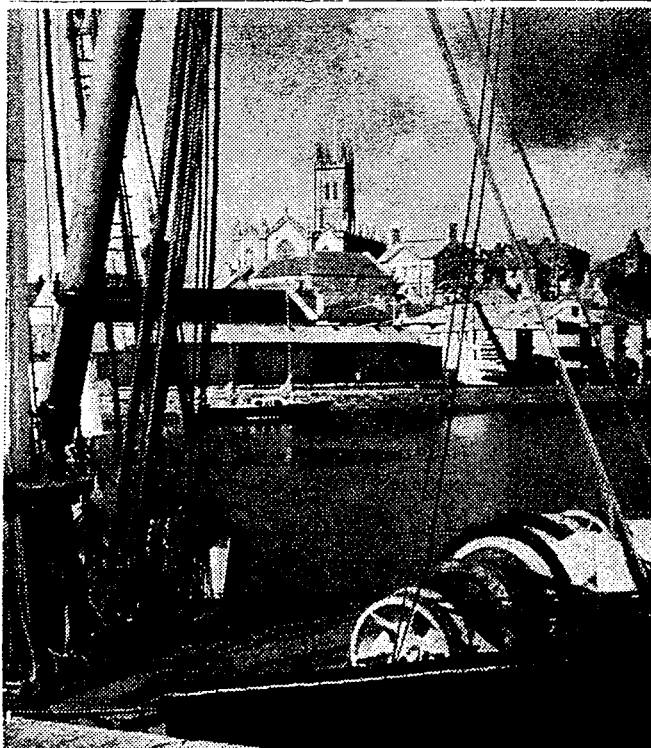
SOME of us have dreams of exploring other planets, and those dreams are not so fanciful as once they seemed. Meanwhile all of us have to face the realities of life on this planet, and we can face them better if we keep fit.

Outdoor sports and recreation provide the best means of keeping fit, and for that reason we can all welcome the news that an Inquiry into Sport is to be made by a committee under the chairmanship of Sir John Wolfenden, Vice-Chancellor of Reading University.

This committee will examine all factors affecting sport in this country, and in particular the practical measures which would result in greater facilities for games, sports, and other outdoor activities which contribute to the nation's well-being.

The biggest problem is almost certainly that of finding the money to pay for more facilities. But such problems have been solved before.

An Inquiry into Sport is a big undertaking, so it is not surprising that it is likely to take two years. The benefits it could bring to this nation would last for centuries.



OUR HOMELAND

The view across the harbour at Penzance, Cornwall

## HE JUST WANTED TO KNOW THE WAY

IF you want to know the time ask a policeman—so runs the old song. If you want to know the way, the advice still holds good, as an American airman must have thought the other day. Landing his light plane in a quiet street in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he leaned out and asked an astonished policeman: "I'm going to Montana, where's the nearest airport?"

The policeman told him and then, perhaps slightly dazed, took out one of the tickets issued for offences against the traffic laws, offences which surely include "alighting in, or causing to alight, any aeroplane, airship, helicopter, or balloon on the public highway."

But before he could hand over the ticket the offender was off again, strictly obeying the law—at least in the matter of directions to the nearest airport.

## Heated objection

WHEN the elders of the little kirk suggested that a stove would make everybody more comfortable in winter, one lady protested that it was unnecessary; the congregation had always managed quite well without a stove.

Despite her protests a stove was duly installed, and as soon as the lady caught sight of it she was almost overcome by the heat. She fanned herself all through the first part of the service, and long before the sermon, got up to leave, so oppressive had the kirk become.

And as she went out, one of the elders remarked: "Come, come, the stove has nae been lit yet."

## Within the Meaning of the Act

FROM British Columbia comes the story of an angry man who entered a City Hall and demanded to know why he was taxed four dollars for his goat.

In reply, an official gave the reason by quoting the Municipal Act: "Any property *abutting* on a highway shall be taxed at the rate of two dollars per foot front."

## Prize-winner



A Road Safety Poster Competition for children was held at Banstead, Surrey. Here is 12-year-old Susan Gerrish with the entry for which she was awarded the first prize in her age group.

## Think on These Things

IN the life of the true Christian there is a quality which is reflected in the home. There is a love and happiness warming and surrounding those who come into the family circle. This quality is also reflected in the way a true Christian does his work. He will always try to give his best for he feels that his work is done in the sight of Jesus.

This quality is seen, too, in the true Christian's personal relationships—in the love and consideration he shows for others.

Jesus said in his last instructions to His disciples: "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me..." (Acts 1. 8).

The Christian is always under observation. It is his duty to bear quiet witness of a Christian life and what it means to himself and others.

O. R. C.

## JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in *italics*. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

(Answers are given on page 12)

- This is an *affluent* neighbourhood.  
A—Swampy.  
B—Wealthy.  
C—Sociable.
- He had a *vapid* look.  
A—Dull.  
B—Hungry.  
C—Angry.
- The rain was *sporadic*.  
A—Falling in torrents.  
B—Scattered showers.  
C—Caused disaster.
- She spoke *rationally*.  
A—Meanly.  
B—Occasionally.  
C—Reasonably.
- You must meet my *illustrious* friend.  
A—So pretty.  
B—Hard-working.  
C—Quite distinguished.
- I object to being *castigated*.  
A—Scolded.  
B—Having an injection.  
C—Left behind.

## THEY SAY . . .

I do not believe science can ever provide the key to a full and really happy life. In spite of the ease and luxury which it has endowed us, we are in the last resort dependent on our own resources and our own characters.

Princess Alexandra

ALTHOUGH the finding of intelligent beings on other planets has always been one of the dreams of would-be space explorers, there seems no serious hope that they will ever do so.

Dr. J. W. S. Pringle, Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge

I THINK space travel will come in our lifetime, and this is my heart's desire: to be the first man on the moon.

Colonel Frank Everest, American test pilot

I FEEL ashamed when I see the large amounts which in other countries are poured out for youth and sport compared with the meagre public support here.

Sir Clarence Sudd, Treasurer, Central Council of Physical Recreation

I NEVER spend any time among young people without feeling that they will be very well able to cope with this world, which grows increasingly strange to people of my own generation.

Prof. Mansfield Cooper, Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, November 26, 1927

HOW perilous are the attempts made by airmen to reach the greater heights above the Earth has been tragically demonstrated by the death of an American Army aeronaut, Captain Hawthorne Gray, who went up in a balloon to try to break the record for height.

On these record-breaking attempts, the pilot wears a mask and takes tubes of oxygen with him to sustain life.

By some mischance, the captain slashed the tube leading from the oxygen cylinder to his gas mask and the oxygen streamed out. This must have happened at a height greater than 40,000 feet, for there is an entry in the balloon's log that the barograph, an instrument which registers height, had pointed to that altitude.

## JUST AN IDEA

Trust your hopes and not your fears.

# Out and About

THE last lemon-coloured gleam of the sun had faded out of the west. Mist was thickening over the wide pond, but the ducks and gulls kept up a lively movement. People had been throwing them food all the afternoon. As usual it was mostly very stale bread. Some was thrown on the water in the hope that fish would rise and take it.

The gulls continued to snap up any morsels they could catch in the air, but would not bother to land just for bread. What was noticeable is that all the pieces of bread left either on the water or the bank were white. But I had brought a supply of broken whole-meal bread, as well as white, and soon noticed that both the ducks and the pair of swans which stay by the pond most of the year selected the brown bread, and if no longer hungry left the white.

## BREAD TEST

It may be that stale white bread is harder than brown, though water fowl will always dip it to make it soft enough to swallow comfortably. Perhaps they recognise that the brown bread is better food.

It will be worth trying the experiment this winter on a bird table. A mixture of white and brown bread should show that the brown is finished first. But one would need to watch to have an idea which birds were using the table.

If the weather had been severe, all the birds might be hungry enough not to mind what sort of stale bread they ate. And anyhow, if gulls in the neighbourhood got to know the bird table, they would see that nothing was left.

## NOISY STARLINGS

While I wondered about such an experiment the pond was quietening. The two swans, as if smoothly moving under white sails, were now crossing the pond to the secluded side which was lined with rushes below the willows, now bare of leaves. On my side, the grass was patched and streaked with brown by some of the last leaves to drop from larger trees—beech and elm and oak.

For some time there had been a loud twittering in them: and now came a burst of wings, and another party of starlings emerged and flew straight for a group of trees a few hundred yards beyond the pond.

The water was by now a dark grey, and as I left, the mist at the far end of the pond showed pale purple where it flowed into the recesses of the wilting reeds.

C. D. D.

## COURAGE, BROTHER

OUR grand business undoubtedly is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand. Courage, brother. Get honest, and times will mend.

Carl le



# SUEZ CANAL OPEN TO WORLD TRAFFIC

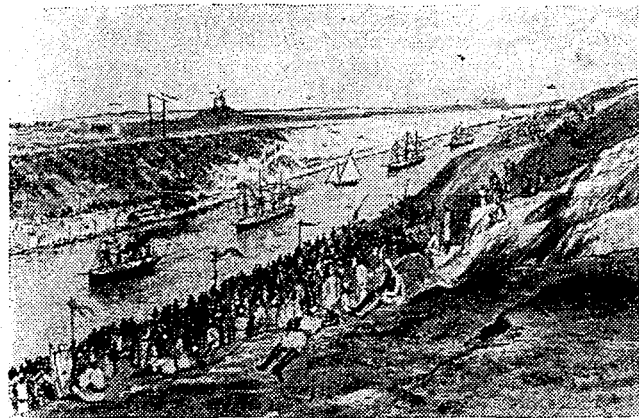
ISMAILIA—The Suez Canal, 92 miles long, which links the Mediterranean with the Red Sea, is now ready. This is confirmed by the news received here an hour ago that at noon a flotilla of 40 ships had reached the Red Sea port of Suez after safely navigating the whole length of the canal from Port Said on the Mediterranean.

The formal opening of the canal, however, took place here two days ago when the 40-ship flotilla from Port Said met four steamers which had sailed from the Suez end. But it could not be claimed that the canal was ready for all ships until the mighty flotilla itself had safely completed its journey

steamers which had sailed from Suez. Thus ships had sailed from either end of the canal to meet in the middle and the next day the canal was officially declared open amid scenes of great rejoicing.

Attempts to build a canal between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea were made as early as the sixth century B.C. The French engineer de Lesseps was in Egypt in 1832 when he conceived the idea of constructing a canal across the Suez isthmus. When his friend Mohammed Said became Khedive of Egypt in 1854 de Lesseps' plans were put into action. A public loan of 200 million francs was raised and the work began.

It was a tremendous task.



The first ships passing through the Suez Canal in 1869

Reproduced by courtesy of the Suez Canal Company

by reaching Suez, which they did today.

The flotilla left Port Said three days ago, on the eve of the formal opening, and sailed into the canal. In front was the French yacht Aigle with the French Empress Eugénie and the Khedive of Egypt aboard. They were accompanied by Ferdinand de Lesseps, the French engineer who built the canal. Thirty-nine other vessels followed, including royal yachts from Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Holland.

Within eight hours the flotilla had reached Lake Timsah—about halfway along the canal. Ismailia is on the northern shores of this lake and it was near the Khedive's palace here that they moored a few hours later. There they were met the same evening by the four

Although there were five lakes between the two seas, the land barrier was a formidable obstacle. Cuttings had to be made through rocky hills. In some places loose sandhills reformed almost as soon as they were levelled. The preparatory work was done by manual labour and then mechanical dredgers scooped out the actual water channel.

On March 19 this year, in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales, who were on a visit to Egypt, the sluices at the Port Said end were opened to allow the Mediterranean to flow through the channel as far as the Bitter Lakes. And on October 24 the final sluice was opened and the whole length of the canal became at last a navigable waterway.

## FIGHTERS AGAINST HUNGER

A young student of Haiti, Tancrede Narcisse, has joined the ranks of the world's fighters against hunger. He has enrolled in the army of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of U.N.

Tancrede has lived in Haiti all his life, and since 1952 he has devoted his skill to the improvement of the island's livestock. (As a boy he often wondered why the sheep and cows were so scraggy compared with those he saw in pictures from the United States.) Now he is to go to Costa Rica and Jamaica to learn more of the secrets of good cattle-breeding.

He is one of a thousand young scientists who are also farmers and breeders and have benefited from the F.A.O. plan to grow every ounce of food possible.

More soldiers for the same army are being recruited by the foundation recently, in Paris, of the André Mayer scholarships. The late André Mayer was a brilliant French scientist who helped to start the F.A.O. Five young men—from Australia, France, Japan, Portugal, and Sweden—will become André Mayer scholars, and so join the forces dedicated to the defeat of hunger and poverty.

## On Wings of Tomorrow

For over fifty years Man has enjoyed the power of flight with wings. Now he is experimenting with rockets that will one day take him into Outer Space, distances far beyond any that wings alone could take him.

In his Boys' Book of Flight (Iliffe, 12s. 6d.) David Le Roi includes a chapter with the exciting title Springboards to Space. Highly topical because of the Russian satellites, it shows with simple but effective diagrams how a high-velocity, three-stage rocket is used to put a satellite into its orbit.

There is also a fine photograph of a man-made moon with a transparent casing that gives a view of some of the instruments inside. Another impressive picture shows how part of the world's surface looks when photographed from a rocket 100 miles high.

### FLYING ON ATOMIC POWER

Yet another chapter to intrigue everyone who is wondering "what next" in this exciting age is Flying on Atomic Power. The author explains the general lines on which this development is working as well as some of the difficulties which must be overcome. He makes the point that whereas it takes 40 tons of fuel to send an ordinary airliner 5500 miles, an atomic aircraft could fly as far on one ounce of uranium 235.

This fine boys' book also has chapters on the testing of pilots for their reaction to G (gravity) in the supersonic aircraft of today; vertical-flight aircraft (gyrodines and helicopters); and flying filling stations, runways, radar, and parachuting. There are also some splendid cutaway drawings of the latest types of aircraft.

### RABBIT FIVE FEET HIGH!

A citizen of Hamburg, badly shaken, reported to the police that he had seen a rabbit about five feet high sitting under a lamp-post in the centre of the city.

The police accepted his statement and then put him at his ease. They told him that what he must have seen was a kangaroo that had escaped from a private zoo and had since been recaptured.

## NEW FILMS

# WAR IN AMERICA AND BALLET FROM RUSSIA

WALT DISNEY has always shown a special flair for making films with an appeal for both old and young and his latest, Johnny Tremain, is no exception. It will delight everybody who likes a good, fast-moving adventure story. It is in wonderful colour and, through the eyes of a young lad, it tells something of the events which led up to the American War of Independence.

determined to assert the rights of the Colonists. The British soldiers and the men of the Colonies come to grips over some tea stored in the English ship, Dartmouth, and Johnny finds plenty of action.

There are a great number of very exciting incidents. We see Paul Revere's famous ride and there is a lot of tension when the Sons of Liberty attack the Dartmouth and throw the tea into the



Johnny Tremain (Hal Stalmaster) with the young newspaper printer Rab Silsbee (Dick Beymer)

The film is set in the years around 1770. Hal Stalmaster, a clever new young actor, plays Johnny Tremain, a youngster apprenticed to a silversmith in Boston. He is told by his employer to mend a silver cup which is the property of a rich merchant. Jonathan Lyte, to whom Johnny believes he is related.

Then one day Johnny has a bad accident and burns his hands so that he cannot continue his work with the silversmith. He asks for help from Mr. Lyte who not only refuses but accuses Johnny of stealing the valuable cup. When he is tried the lad is acquitted and, depressed at the false accusation, decides to join the Sons of Liberty, a patriotic organisation

sea. You will also thrill to the stirring scenes in the engagements at Lexington and Concord.

Although there is plenty of shooting there is no horror in the war scenes and the photography is superb. Apart from Hal Stalmaster there are good performances by Luana Patten as a young girl who befriends Johnny when he is falsely accused, by Dick Beymer as one of the leaders of the Sons of Liberty, and by Sebastian Cabot as the unjust merchant.

Director Robert Stevenson must be congratulated for providing a vigorous film which has both suspense and action and gives us a vivid picture of that past age.

BALLET is becoming increasingly popular with young people and The Bolshoi Ballet, which has been filmed by Dr. Paul Czinner at Covent Garden, gives them a splendid chance of seeing one of the greatest ballerinas in the world in action.

The grace and technique of Ulanova make The Bolshoi Ballet film one of the most stimulating and exciting experiences possible. The second half of the film is devoted to a shortened but stirring version of that ever-popular ballet, Giselle, and it is preceded by half a dozen short ballets.

The fine colour and the clever photography enables an audience to appreciate the dancing perhaps more in a cinema than in the theatre, and everybody should take the opportunity of seeing the artistry of one of the greatest dancers and supporting corps in the world.



Nicolai Fadeychev and Ulanova in a scene from Giselle



# THREE MEN ON A RAFT IN THE WIDE ATLANTIC

One August day last year cheering crowds greeted a small weather-worn log raft as it was towed into Falmouth harbour. With a crew of three Frenchmen and two cats, it had sailed across the Atlantic from west to east. Now the man who organised this fantastic exploit, Henri Beaudout, has described it in *The Lost One* (Hodder and Stoughton, 16s.).

Henri Beaudout, a draughtsman by profession, had emigrated from France to Montreal after the war. Bored with city life there, he suggested starting an explorers' club and to show his friends that he had the right spirit he decided to do something daring—like crossing the Atlantic on a raft.

## FIRST ATTEMPT

His first attempt, on a raft called *Egaré* (Wanderer) ended disastrously on the rocky Newfoundland coast, but nothing daunted he built *Egaré II*. It had a rudder, one square sail, and was fitted with a cabin and radio.

Henri had infected three other young Frenchmen with his trans-Atlantic raft enthusiasm: Gaston Vanackere, another draughtsman; Marc Modena, a house painter; and José Martinez. The four, with two lively kittens, set sail from Halifax on May 24, 1956.

Their immediate aim was to reach the Gulf Stream, but contrary winds soon took them into northern waters, where they suffered from cold and constant soakings in rough seas. There were waves 25 feet high. Some of their precious food was washed overboard, and after they had been at sea for a month José became very ill from exposure, cold, and hunger and had to be sent back to Canada in a passing vessel.

The remaining three battled on eastward in conditions that would have dismayed the toughest sailor. In rough weather white-crested

waves constantly swept right across the raft. But their main anxiety was food. The fish they had planned to catch were absent, and they had to cut their rations to the barest minimum—always sparing some for the kittens, Puce and Guiton ("Flea" and "Dog-watch").

To eke out their drinking water they relied on catching rain-water, and they made it go further by a daily mixture of one pint of salt water to two pints of fresh. They were reduced to eating seaweed when an American naval vessel providentially approached, and the captain gave them food.

Alone in their tiny log world amid Atlantic wastes life was certainly never dull. Catching their first fish, a cod, was a tremendous excitement, especially for Puce and Guiton; there was the morning when some ropes snapped and they had to struggle with the wildly flapping sail while sea water frothed across the raft; there was the time when the sea burst up suddenly through the cabin floorboards; there was the excitement of catching a shark; and there was the night when they were nearly run down by a passing ship.

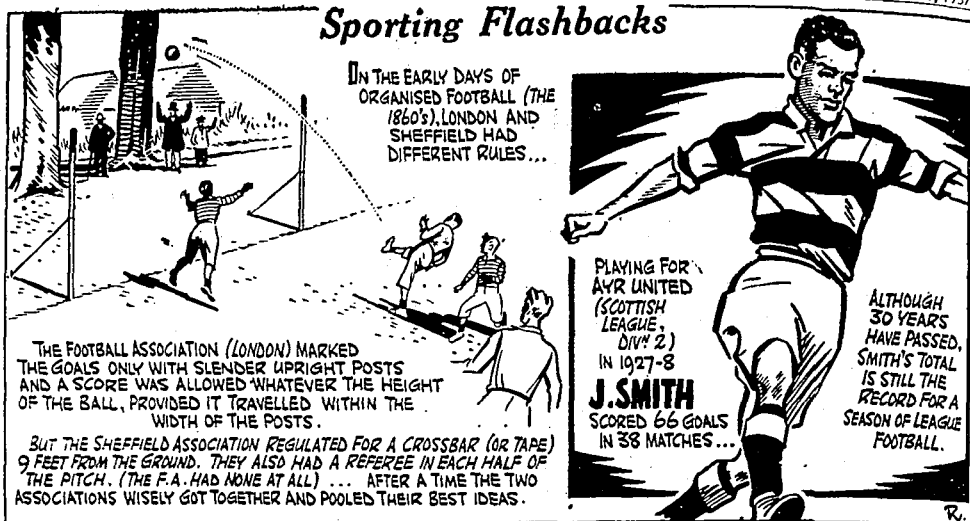
## JOURNEY'S END

When they reached the Gulf Stream they caught more fish, but their water was now dangerously low. But, at long last, they made the approaches of the English Channel.

And on the 88th morning of their voyage they were towed into Falmouth harbour, after sailing well over 2200 miles—on a few logs lashed together.

Theirs was a triumph of the human spirit; for as Henri Beaudout writes: "The chief lesson I learnt was just how great and unselfish a man can become. My two companions taught me this on every day of this journey."

## Sporting Flashbacks



## OILING THE WHEELS OF GOOD CAUSES

People in many parts of the world are beginning to benefit from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, the huge fund created under the will of a rich oil magnate.

Calouste Gulbenkian, an Armenian, was born in Turkey but became a British subject in 1902. When he died in 1955, aged 86, it was estimated that he was worth something like £300,000,000, and much of that vast fortune is to be used to help good causes of many kinds in many lands.

The first grants made by the

Gulbenkian Foundation, last April, totalled about half a million pounds. Now a second list of gifts and beneficiaries, reaching a total of over a million pounds, has been issued by the Trustees, and includes several British organisations.

The Royal College of Art in London has been offered £75,000 to build a Gulbenkian wing, Oxford University has been offered £22,000 to build a new lecture-room, £15,000 has been set aside for science teaching in Britain, and £8000 is to be given towards the cost of Middlesbrough's Little Theatre, which was opened last month.

Among a number of other concerns to receive grants are the Ballet Rambert, Mr. Robert Atkins' Shakespearean Company, Dover College, and the Merchant Navy School, H.M.S. Worcester, at Greenhithe.

Altogether the British Commonwealth shares about £500,000 with Portugal. (Mr. Gulbenkian lived in Portugal from 1942 until his death, and the Foundation's headquarters are at Lisbon.) The other half-million pounds of the latest donation is to be spent in Middle Eastern countries.

## DENNIS THE MENACE

Anyone in Bootle will tell you about "Dennis the Menace." He does all the wrong things about road safety and keeps on landing in trouble. His misadventures are seen on posters which also show "Freddy the Steady," who always follows Road Safety rules. They have two girl-friends, too—called "Mary the Wary" and "Milly the Silly."

These four poster characters have done fine work in making young Bootle safety conscious on the roads, and are the invention of one who ought to know—a local policeman.

## NAVY'S 8th LION

During a period of over four centuries seven ships of the Royal Navy have borne the name Lion. The first was a Scottish privateer of 36 guns captured in 1511. The last Lion was the famous battle-cruiser, built at Devonport in 1914, which was Admiral Beatty's flagship at the Battle of Jutland in 1916.

Now the Admiralty has decided, with the Queen's approval, that a new "Tiger Class" cruiser, being completed at Wallsend-on-Tyne, should be the eighth Lion.

## THE WHITE COMPANY—new picture-version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stirring yarn (11)



Trapped on top of the keep, Sir Nigel's party had almost given up hope when, at dawn, they heard the marching song of the White Company, who had been attracted to the scene by the flames. One of the newcomers shot an arrow with string attached over the keep, and those on the roof hauled up a rope by means of the string. First they lowered Bertrand's lady, then slid down themselves, cheered by the White Company.



The White Company marched off and joined the Black Prince's army which was to invade Spain. Sent into the Pyrenees to reconnoitre, Sir Nigel and his men looked down on the enemy camp. In the centre was a big tent which Sir Nigel knew from its standard belonged to the King of Castile. The little knight resolved to attempt a "small deed"—to enter the camp in disguise and kidnap the Spanish king.



Wearing the armour of a Castilian knight they had captured, Sir Nigel rode into the Spanish camp followed only by Hordle John, Sam, and Alleyne, who led a spare horse. There were so many soldiers moving about that little notice was taken of them. Then a great hubbub broke out as the rest of the White Company attacked a distant part of the camp. The Spaniards all ran in the direction of the uproar.



At the royal pavilion most of the guards ran off to join in the fight. Sam and Alleyne sprang from their horses and disarmed the two sentries left. Sir Nigel and Hordle John entered the tent and, after a fight, emerged with the senseless form of a man whose surcoat proclaimed him to be the King of Castile. They tied him to the spare horse and galloped away with arrows whistling about their ears.

Can they get away with their important prisoner? See next week's instalment



# NO CLUES FOR THE CONWAYS

by Geoffrey Morgan

Brett Hallam, owner of the yacht Windfall, has disappeared. Amos and the Conways have salvaged the vessel, but are told by Blake, who says he is a London reporter, that he suspects she is not Hallam's boat. Jerry discovers that Domino, a yacht which could have been faked to resemble Windfall, has been sold to a Mr. Bland, who lives at Seeley Hall, near Penfole Creek. The Conways sail to the creek and learn from the local newspaper that Blake has been injured in a car smash, and that he is a private detective. The Conways phone the hospital and are told Blake has lost his memory.

to know, glancing round the empty room. "I figured you'd ask about Blake at the desk."

"People are more likely to talk if you buy something," he grinned. "You'd like coffee, wouldn't you?" Jane nodded as the waitress came in, and Jerry gave the order. They sat down and he said quietly: "I thought there might have been something from Yarmouth. Looks like they haven't had much success so far."

Jane agreed and, a few moments later, glancing at the door, she warned: "It's up to you, cousin. Here she comes."

The girl entered with a tray containing coffee set for two and a plate of sweet biscuits.

"Thank you," Jerry smiled as she placed it on the table. He cleared his throat, and as the girl turned to go, said: "We heard

she ended. "He towed Mr. Blake's car back, and is working on it, I believe."

The Conways thanked her, hastily drank their coffee, and went out into the street, turning towards the Thandon road where, on the fringe of the village, the girl had told them, Mr. Travis had his garage.

## Private secretary

"So Blake's got a secretary," Jane murmured as they fell into step beside each other.

"I should think most private detectives have," Jerry said. "They've got to leave someone in their office to take calls and so on, when they're out on a case."

"Wonder if it would be any use trying to see her?"

"Don't think she'd talk, if that's what you mean. Stands to reason. Jane, she'd have to treat everything he did in the strictest confidence."

Jane nodded, lapsing into silence for a moment.

"Tough job for her, I guess," she declared at length. "I mean, she must know all about this business he was working on, and now he's lost his memory, what's she going to do?"

"Your guess is as good as mine. She might go to the police. No telling. Depends on what it's all about. But I'm pretty sure she wouldn't give us any help."

"You know," Jane said thoughtfully. "I think Amos is beginning to think he ought to tell the police now."

"We haven't much to tell," Jerry pointed out. "But I think the skipper's half a mind to. The only thing that makes him hesitate is dropping Hallam in the car. But if he doesn't get any news from the wreck authorities at Yarmouth when he phones them today, I reckon he'll report the little we do know."

## Way to Seeley Hall

The garage consisted of a small workshop and two petrol pumps. There was a bungalow in the meadow just behind it, and a tiny office between the workshop and the pumps. The office was empty so Jerry pressed the bell at the side of the door and a youth in overalls appeared from the workshop. Jerry inquired for Mr. Travis, and they were led to the building, where he was working on the jacked-up end of Blake's car.

Mr. Travis was a tubby, affable man who, in his green one-piece overall, looked more like a mechanic from a racing pit than the owner of a small country garage. Jerry introduced himself and Jane, and told him the latest news of Blake's condition. The proprietor showed them the damaged car, but he did not know the cause of the accident.

"Where did it happen?" Jerry asked.

"About a mile down the road. On a sharpish bend. You'd soon recognise the spot from the oil stains on the grass and the dents in the tree. Mr. Blake was coming from the Thandon direction."

"We must go and have a look," Jerry said. "We're heading for Seeley Hall. Would it be that way?"

"Seeley Hall? Yes, it lies down towards the river. There's a turning to it about half a mile beyond the bend where Mr. Blake crashed."

Jerry nodded, and hoped his voice sounded calm and natural when he said: "I suppose Mr. Bland is one of your customers?"

"Afraid not," the proprietor returned. "We rarely see him in the village. Think he goes to Thandon for all his requirements. Mind you, he's only been in the Hall about three months or so. Funny you should mention him, though. Mr. Blake did. He pulled in here for some petrol the afternoon before he crashed, and asked me the way to Seeley Hall."

Mr. Travis could not have sus-

## CONWAYS ON THE AIR

A TWO-PART radio serial featuring Skipper Amos and Jerry and Jane Conway is to be broadcast in Children's Hour on Saturday and on November 30.

Chase the Conways, as the serial is called, is adapted from the story of that name which first appeared in CN last year.

pected what reaction his information caused in the Conways' minds or he would not have waved them away so cheerily, and the youngsters kept their thoughts to themselves until they were well beyond earshot of the garage.

"So Blake was on to Bland," Jane said at length in a hushed voice. "He was going to see him."

"Yes," said Jerry, quickening his pace along the Thandon road. "And so am I."

To be continued

## II. In search of clues

Jerry pushed open the door and followed Jane out of the telephone kiosk. They stood for a moment on the grass verge, silently sharing their disappointment.

"I never did have much hope we'd get anywhere with the hospital," Jerry declared at length.

Jane nodded, her expression gloomy.

"It's tough on Blake," she said. "He won't be able to help himself or anyone else."

"It might not be for long," he explained. "The girl did say a loss of memory in such cases is often only temporary. I hope it is, but, of course, that doesn't help us now."

"We'll just have to go ahead as we planned; see what we can find out on our own."

Jane's face suddenly brightened with a forced confidence.

"Come on then, cousin," she urged. "We'd better start with the post office, I guess."

Dilwyth was a compact little village of three or four shops and a score of cottages jostling each other on either side of the road. The church lay back on a gentle rise behind the houses with the rectory nearby almost hidden in the trees. There were one or two other big houses standing in their own grounds, but the most impressive building was the Bell Hotel. It stood in the centre of the village, its old brick front proclaiming its origin in the coaching days.

The Conways found the post office almost opposite. The elderly lady behind the counter sold sweets and tobacco as well as stamps and postal orders, but she had nothing to give them for Skipper Amos. Jerry led Jane out of the shop, across the street and into the small comfortable lounge of the hotel.

"What's the idea?" she wanted



Mr. Travis was working on Blake's car

about the motor accident near here. We know Mr. Blake and have just phoned the hospital."

"Oh," The girl was surprised by the unexpected statement, but she recovered quickly and appeared ready to talk. "How's he getting on?"

"He's conscious now, but suffering a temporary loss of memory," Jerry explained. "He hit a tree, didn't he? D'you know how it happened?"

## Blake's crash

The girl did not know. The general opinion was that he must have had a blackout or the car brakes failed. It happened at a sharp bend in the road on the Thandon side of the village. Early that morning her employer had taken Mr. Blake's luggage to Thandon, where Mr. Blake's secretary was staying, having arrived the previous day from London. The waitress could give them no further information. Her employer would not be returning until the evening, as he was spending the rest of the day in Thandon on business.

"Mr. Travis, down at the garage, might be able to tell you more,"

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### NEWS FROM THE ZOO

## KING PENGUIN WHICH MUST NOT SWIM

And water-boatmen which swim upside down

GEORGE and Jean, the king penguins who last August hatched a single youngster—the only king penguin to be bred in the Gardens this year—are having a family problem just now.

"Both parents enjoy going for a swim," said an official, "but the young penguin, who wears the fluffy brown plumage of babyhood, cannot follow them. Were it to enter the water at present it would probably drown, as its coat is not waterproof like that of the adult birds. So, until next spring, when the chick acquires its mature covering, it cannot take a swim."

"Meanwhile, it stands at the water's edge, preening itself as best it can and looking on at its elders enviously. Keepers are watching the situation. But so, too, is Jean. The other day when her offspring seemed about to follow her into the water, she turned round and chased it well away from the pool. It is gratifying to see that her instinct, if not the baby's, is sound enough."

### QUEER INSECTS

New arrivals at the insect house are 14 large specimens of that queer aquatic insect popularly known as the "water-boatman." They are a gift from one of the Fellows of the Society, Mr. Donald G. Armstrong, of West Wickham, Kent.

"A keen amateur angler, Mr. Armstrong was fishing in a local pool when he noticed the water-boatmen, and decided to catch them for our collection," Overseer George Ashby told me. "Nothing if not resourceful, he obtained an empty sweet jar from a nearby village shop and brought the water-boatmen here in the jar. We are very glad of these water insects, as they have a big appeal, more especially to children, who are fascinated to see them swimming, as they do, upside down, their hind legs working to and fro like little oars."

"Water-boatmen" occasionally breed in their decorative tank in the insect house. They lay eggs in

the roots of the weeds. The Zoo has bred them on occasions. But unfortunately they are short-lived—"about six months is the limit of their life," said Mr. Ashby.

Under close observation in the laboratory attached to the insect house is the cocoon of a West Indian crab-spider. The cocoon, about the size of a plum stone, was found by a London man among some bananas he had just bought.

"We estimate that there are

the form of lectures, and we hope the first of these can be arranged to take place in January.

"There are various aspects of animal behaviour which should prove very fascinating and instructive to the young—parental care, animal behaviour, camouflage, and so on. The chief advantage of giving the course at the Zoo is that we can use living animals of a size which could not be got into a classroom."

Craven Hill.



### Queer birds

In the picture on the left is a Norwich Cropper pigeon, which won a championship at the Dairy Show at Olympia recently. The hornbill on the right is one of the birds which Mr. David Attenborough gave to the London Zoo after his Zoo Quest to New Guinea last June.

### FRIENDS OF MAN

The debt owed by Man to his animal friends is well outlined in Richard Ogle's new book: *Animals in the Service of Man* (Bell, 12s. 6d.).

The author fittingly begins with the story of how the dog, who "adopted" Man untold centuries ago, has since learned to perform a great variety of useful tasks for him.

But mankind has enlisted the services of many other animals—horses and asses, goats and sheep, camels and elephants. Mr. Ogle has stories of them all, as well as of birds and insects which in their various ways are no less useful.

Excellent illustrations by the author, this is a book for every animal-lover.

### FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE SOUVENIRS

A collection of sea-shells which belonged to Florence Nightingale has been bequeathed to Nottingham University by Mr. Shore Nightingale, a cousin of the famous Lady of the Lamp.

The University has a Florence Nightingale Hall and a committee room with a mahogany table, Hepplewhite chairs, a bookcase, and a tallboy which once belonged to the great lady, and a cabinet thought to be the one in which she kept her instruments when she was a practising nurse.

### Week-old baby

The first rhinoceros calf to be born in Britain arrived recently at the Whipsnade Zoo. Here is the first picture of the calf, taken when it was only a week old, with its mother, Mohini, a nine-year-old Indian rhinoceros.





# SPORTS SHORTS

## Christine strengthens her wrists

SOME weeks ago we mentioned that Christine Trueman was undergoing a course of exercises to increase her speed and stamina on the tennis court. Here we see her doing one of the exercises, rolling a stick weighted with a brick, under the eye of Geof Dyson, the AAA



national coach, who devised this method of strengthening Christine's wrists and forearms.

Another of our young sports girls, 15-year-old Tina Barry of Stoke Newington, London, is also looking to this sort of training to improve her prowess, but at swimming. Tina has now begun a weight training course in London and is being advised by Al Murray, the national weight-lifting coach.

## Top-ranking

LITTLE-KNOWN in table tennis circles until the recent international junior trials, 16-year-old Eddie Taylor of Sunderland heads the first junior ranking list to be made for many years.

Eddie, who is an apprentice electrician, was also chosen to lead England's junior team against Germany the other day.

Leading girl player is 14-year-old Jean Harrower of New Barnet, who last year became the youngest girl ever to win junior international honours. Jean, incidentally, is the daughter of Geoff Harrower, who was himself an international a few years ago.

ANN HAYDON and Johnny Leach will represent England in the Scandinavian Open table tennis championships, starting in Stockholm on Friday. It was at Stockholm last year that Ann reached the finals of three events in the world championships, but failed to win any of them. At Stockholm, in 1949, Johnny Leach won the first of his two world singles titles. Neither of these players will be using their favourite sponge bats, in view of the English ban.

A BIG crowd can be expected at the Empire Pool, at Wembley, to see this Wednesday's boxing match between England and Poland. The Poles are second only to Russia among the European boxing nations, and last year beat a strong British team in Warsaw by eight bouts to two. Most of the victorious members of that Polish team, among them several European champions, will be in the ring at Wembley.

## Shame!

PROBABLY the quaintest "fan-letter" is owned by former Football League referee Leslie Mackay. He received it six years ago in Hong Kong, where he had been invited to referee a series of matches.

The letter contains only one word — "shame!" — written 78 times.

"Perhaps the indignant Chinese writer didn't know any more English," says Mr. Mackay, "but, anyway, nobody ever loves the poor old ref!"



## Two goal-minders of the WRAC

James is the mascot of the Hounslow and Kingston depots of the Women's Royal Army Corps hockey team. His favourite place is by the goalpost, where he doubtless barks encouragingly to goalkeeper Marion Thorne.

WILFRED RHODES, the famous England and Yorkshire cricketer, who has been blind for some years, has celebrated his 80th birthday. Among his many greetings was one from the Prime Minister.

"Yours has been one of the most glorious of all careers in cricket," wrote Mr. Macmillan. "It was one of my greatest delights to watch you in your playing days and it is good to know that you are still able in spite of your sad handicap to take pleasure from the lovely game to which you have given so much. I wish you well. I hope I may be allowed to come and talk to you the next time we happen to be at a Test Match together."

SONNY ROST came from Canada at the age of 20 to join the ranks of Wembley's ice hockey players. That was 23 years ago. Today he is still a great favourite at Wembley, where he is player-coach to the famous Lions, and a few weeks ago he appeared in his 1000th game for the team—a record that is likely to stand for a very long time.

## Making sure

LADISLAV KUBALA, the famous Hungarian footballer who plays for Barcelona, is making sure that he continues in soccer when his playing days are over. Having passed coaching and physiotherapy courses, he is coming to London to take his final referee's examination. Kubala has gained many caps for Hungary as well as for Spain in international and World Cup matches.

TONY WEEKES-PEARSON must be one of the fittest schoolmasters in Britain! Every day he runs from his home at Cobham to Gillingham Grammar School, and back again after lessons. An outstanding runner with the Blackheath Harriers, he has this year won the Southern Counties Marathon, the Kent 20-miles championship, and the England B team cross-country title, as well as many other minor successes. Now he is training hard, to earn selection for England in next year's Marathons at the Empire Games in Cardiff, and the European Games at Stockholm.



## Badminton honours

Ron Mulvaney of Nunhead with some of the trophies he has won at badminton. He plays for the Surrey team which has held the County Badminton Championship for the past three seasons.

YOU might think famous show-jumper Pat Smythe saw quite enough of horses in the jumping-ring and at her home in Miserden, Gloucestershire.

But one of Pat's hobbies is collecting ornaments fashioned in the form of horses. And every one of the rooms in her house has a number of these souvenirs collected in all parts of the world!

THIS weekend the English Invitation badminton tournament is to be held at Wimbledon, and the brothers Oon should be among the honours. Chong Teik Oon and Chong Jin Oon are Malaysians who have taken over the championship crowns worn for so long by those other famous Malaysian brothers, Eddy and David Chong. Chong Teik Oon, aged 20, is studying medicine at Cambridge, and his 18-year-old brother Chong Jin is soon to follow him to the Varsity.

## Warming the football pitches

ALL football clubs fear frost. Apart from causing games to be cancelled, it always brings the risk of injury to players falling on the bone-hard ground. Many leading clubs use straw to cover the ground before a match, but this is a laborious task. Electric cables have also been suggested, but the cost of installation has always been prohibitive. Now the Institute of Electrical Engineers announce a new plastic cable which is much cheaper and makes heated grounds a practical possibility. The current would be switched on if the frost was likely and would cost about £20 a night.

## HE PREFERS HIS OLD BOOTS

MOST of our leading footballers have a favourite pair of boots. And it is noticeable that they seem to prefer really ancient and dilapidated boots rather than nice-looking new ones.

Take Chelsea's 17-year-old inside right Jimmy Greaves for instance, at the beginning of the season hardly heard of and now hailed as an England star of the near future.

When Jimmy played for the England Under-23 XI at Wembley recently, his Rumanian opponents were fascinated by his remarkable boots—which seemed to be held together only with extra lacing and rolls of sticky tape! Through an

interpreter, Jimmy had quite a job convincing them that he really did wear them from choice. It seems some of the Rumanians thought his club could not afford a new pair!

Says Jimmy: "I know they look a bit funny, but I like them and they seem to bring me luck. I've had them for years, and really got used to them. Why, I certainly won't throw them away as long as I can still keep each boot in one piece for ninety minutes."

Cracked a Chelsea team-mate: "Jimmy doesn't take his boots off in the dressing-room after a match—he just unwinds all the 'wrappings' and they fall off!"

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# MISUNDERSTOOD

"ARE you laughing at me?" demanded the teacher of his class.  
"No, sir," his pupils chorused.  
"Then what else is there to laugh at?"

## STRANGE, BUT TRUE

DRAW a line one inch long. On it you could put 125 million atoms of oxygen—if you could catch them.

## LETTER "P" AND LUCK

"You always seem to have good luck,"  
Said Anthony to John,  
"And win your races, pass exams—  
How well you do get on!"

But as for me, what use to try?  
I'm always low in class,  
And if I run I'm sure to trip  
And fall while others pass."

Now, Father had been listening.  
"Why, Anthony, my lad,  
I call that very foolish talk—  
In fact, it's wrong and bad."

Great men are those who try and try.  
Cheer up, and cease to grunt.  
The sort of luck you'll find the best  
Has a letter P in front!"

## SPOT THE . . .

GREAT GREY SHRIKE, a regular winter visitor, as it perches on fence or post, from which it will swoop down on insects and small birds. The upper plumage is pearl-grey, and there is a white stripe over the eyes, which are surrounded by a black patch; there is also white on chin and cheek, and the black wings have white bars. The tail is black above and white below; the heavy bill and ear covering are black. An average specimen is nine-and-a-half inches long.



## FIND THE TOWNS

RE-ARRANGE the words below to form the names of five towns in England.

1. Night orb.
2. Wore crest.
3. Mean hide.
4. Falling word.
5. Win yet.

## CATCH QUESTION

WHY is a dog's tail like the core of a tree?

## Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 At the back. 4 Curved structure. 7 Jig. 9 Sixteen ounces. 11 Found on flowers. 13 Extent. 15 Put down. 16 Request. 17 Female hare. 18 Ancient. 19 Coppers. 21 Interfere. 23 Exclamation. 24 Shows the way. 26 At that time. 27 Tender.

READING DOWN. 1 Small stream. 2 Anno Domini. 3 Fast. 4 Perform. 5 Explanation. 6 Many. 8 Catches a ball or a fish. 10 Holy Book. 12 Marine worm. 14 Centre. 17 Acts. 18 Leave out. 19 Port of London Authority. 20 Lessen. 22 Lair. 25 Thus.

Answer next week

# BROKEN JOURNEY FOR JACKO



Jacko was galloping home from the farm with a stock of vegetables in his donkey cart. It was a rather bumpy journey—so bumpy, in fact, that one of the wheels worked loose. To Jacko's dismay, his stock of potatoes and turnips spilled into the road and down the slope. "Oh dear," he sighed, "I suppose that is what is called rolling stock."

## BEDTIME TALE

### LITTLE BLUE-TIT FINDS A WAY

"THIS is a fine idea!" said the smallest Blue-tit, when, for the very first time, he and his brothers fed at a bird table.

The Starlings thought so, too, when they discovered it. But then trouble began for the Blue-tits. For the big, swaggering, spotted birds pushed and screamed at the little blue and yellow fellows each time they tried to feed.

Finally, the greedy Starlings snatched up the rest of the bread and fat there, and flew off with it. The hungry little Blue-tits flew away to hunt through other gardens, but they had no luck. Then the smallest suggested: "Let us go back. There might be some more food now."

Though the others did not believe this, they found he was right. And cousin Great Tit, in his yellow waistcoat with its black stripe down the centre, was already feeding there. But he made room for them.

Almost at once, however, the

Starlings began arriving again. "Come on," cried Blue-tit. "Let us each fly away with a lump of fat, and eat it in that bush."

But none of them could find a place there to lodge their fat bits, and they fell to the ground, where the greedy Starlings gobbled them up.

The Blue-tits tried again, and again; but always the same thing happened. "What shall we do?" they cried hungrily.

"Watch me. I'll be teacher," called Great Tit from a branch above.

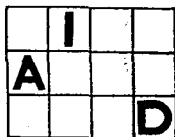
So they watched him fly down to the bird table, seize a bit of fat, and fly back to the bush. Then, still holding it in his beak, he placed it flat along a twig, then put one foot on it to hold it. Then he pecked it easily.

"So that is the way it is done!" said Blue-tit admiringly. And soon, after a little practice, they, too, were enjoying a meal of fat.

JANE THORNCROFT

## WORD OBLONG

CAN you put the letters in the word **NEWSPAPER** in the nine spaces in this drawing to make three words across and four down?



## OLD AND NEW

THE answer to each clue includes either the word Old or New.

1. Story about Roundheads and Cavaliers.
2. Novel by Dickens.
3. Name for the American Continent.
4. Sweet Nell of . . . . .
5. Famous cricket ground.
6. Island off east coast of Canada.

## PICK THIS FRUIT

TWO letters from Peter  
And three from Paul  
Re-arranged make a fruit  
Known to you all.

The answers to these puzzles are given in column 5

## TONGUE TWISTER

BETTY BOTTA bought some butter.  
"But," she said, "this butter's bitter. But a bit of better butter will make my batter better." So she bought a bit of butter better than the bitter butter, and it made her batter better. So it was better Betty Botta bought a bit of better butter.

## PRE-HISTORY LIMERICK

THERE once was a Plesiosaurus,  
Who lived when the Earth was all porous;  
It fainted with shame  
When it first heard its name,  
But that was a long time before us.

## PRESSING

TWO tailors were about to iron some material when one asked the other on which side of the bench he wished to work.  
"It will be right for me to take the left, and then it will be left for you to take the right."

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Find the towns. Brighton, Worcester, Mitcham, Wallingford, Witney.  
Catch question. Because it is always behind the bark.  
Odd number. Seven.  
Uncle Pat's puzzle. Tom chose the coin: one sixpence, one threepenny piece, two half-pennies, and eight farthings. There are, of course, other ways of making one shilling. See how many you can find.  
Word Oblong. PITS  
AREA  
WEND  
Old and new. Children of the New Forest, Old Curiosity Shop, New World, Old Drury, Old Trafford, Newfoundland.  
Pick this fruit. Apple.

## JUST A FEW WORDS

1. B. Affluent means inflowing; abounding; wealthy. (From Latin *affluere*, to flow.)
2. A. A Vapid mean; spiritless; dull; flat. (From Latin *rapidus*.)
3. B. Sporadic means occurring here and there or now and then. (From Greek *sporadikos*, scattered.)
4. C. Rational means endowed with reason; sane; intelligent. (From Latin *rationalis*.)
5. C. Illustrious means highly distinguished; noble. (From Latin *illustrius*, more clearly.)
6. A. To castigate is to chastise; to criticize severely. (From Latin *castigare*, to punish.)



LOOK, KIDS!

says Tony the Tiger

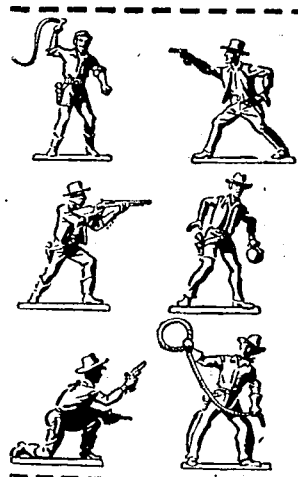
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